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SATURDAY
OCTOBER 30, 1954

E. still ill. Nothing at the office. I went to Gizardin and bought large medallions, one in bronze and the other in wood, of Louis XV and Louis XVI.

Visited the bookseller Clavreuil, on Rue St. André des Arts, for the first time and rummaged around in his fine stock of biographies. Acquired the memoirs of Countess Helene Potocki, and read most of them today. Also, the somewhat apocryphal recollections of the Duc de Richelieu, who, for most of his 86 odd years, excited the love of all ladies and non-ladies. He was an utter cad, but brave, charming, and vastly entertaining. I added to these Un Diplomate au Dix-Huitième Siècle (Louis-Augustin Blondel), de Ségur's Julie de L'Espinasse, Mémoires du Comte Gaspard de Chavagnac, Mangre's Marquise de Boufflers, Lachize's Une Amazone sous le Premier Empire (the recital of the caprices of Ida St.-Elme), and, lastly, a book I have long pursued, Marc-Monnier's Un Aventurier Italien (Count Joseph Gorani).

The above will for a while divert me from de Quincey's Confessions of an English Opium-Eater, which I am reading for the first time with great relish.

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